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Spring 2015

### PUBH 3136 A - Principles of Environmental Health

Tempest Hill

*Georgia Southern University, Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health*

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Georgia Southern University  
Department of Community Health Education & Behavior  
Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health PUBH  
3136: Principles of Environmental Health  
Section A: T/Th 9:30-10:45am  
Spring 2015 Forest Drive Building 1233

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**Instructor:** Tempest Hill, Dr.PH(c), MPH  
**E-mail:** th01177@georgiasouthern.edu  
**Office:** **Office Hours:** Tuesdays 1-4pm or by appointment. **Hendrix Hall Rm. 2023**

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**Course Description:**

This course is designed to provide students with an introduction to and overview of the key areas of environmental health. Using the perspectives of the population and community, the course will cover factors associated with the development of environmental health problems. Students will gain an understanding of the interaction of individuals and communities with the environment, the potential impact on health of environmental agents, and specific applications of concepts of environmental health. The course will consist of a series of lectures and activities which will cover principles derived from core environmental health disciplines. The sequence of major topics begins with background material and “tools of the trade” (environmental epidemiology, environmental toxicology, and environmental policy and regulation). The course then covers specific agents of environmental diseases (e.g., microbial agents, ionizing and nonionizing radiation). Finally, applications and domains of environmental health are addressed (e.g., water and air quality, food safety, waste disposal, occupational health, and injuries).

**Textbook:**

Required Textbook: Robert H. Friis, *Essentials of Environmental Health, Second Edition*, Jones & Bartlett Learning, 2012 ISBN: 0763778907

**Objectives:**

- a. Explain the theoretical and fundamental concept of environmental health including components of its broad policies and practices, through written and oral assignments which demonstrate the students understanding.
- b. Examine the effects of environmental pollution within varying populations comparing and contrasting the community health effects among those populations
- c. Develop a fundamental knowledge of environmental management principles, regulatory policies/practices along with emergency response and the Incident Command System through viewing and evaluating the application of such principles, policies and practices.
- d. Compare and contrast various environmental health treatment and prevention strategies through the analysis of environmental health peer reviewed articles which discuss the application of such strategies.
- e. Identify how environmental health issues are relevant to our daily routines and the health effects which may be associated with those environmental issues.

### **Instructional Methods:**

Information will be presented in the classroom, through the required readings, and through written & oral assignments. Class meetings will be a combination of lecture, class discussion, and group activities. The instructor will attempt to cover all of the assigned readings; **however, if we do not cover all assigned readings you are responsible to know the material.** Furthermore, students are responsible for **all miscellaneous information** discussed during the assigned class periods.

### **Grading:**

<b><u>Assignments</u></b>	<b><u>Points</u></b>
Exams (3) @ 100 points each	300
Final Exam ( cumulative)	80
Quizzes (5 quizzes @ 10 pts each)	50
Environmental Health Impact Assignment	50
Article Critique	30
Current Event	10
Term Project	70
<b>Total</b>	<b>590 pts.</b>

<b><u>Point Scale</u></b>	<b><u>Percent</u></b>	<b><u>Grade</u></b>
531 - 590 pts.	90 - 100%	A
472 - 530 pts.	80 – 89.9%	B
413 - 471 pts.	70 – 79.9%	C
354 - 412 pts.	60 – 69.9%	D
353 - 0 pts.	00 – 59.9%	F

**PLEASE NOTE:** It is at the professor's discretion to round-up your final grade. My policy is as follows: If you have more than 3 unexcused absences OR do not actively participate in class discussions/activities **YOUR GRADE WILL NOT BE ROUNDED UP**, If you have a 79.0-.9 and you have **MORE THAN 3** unexcused absences **OR do not actively participate in class discussion/activities** you will receive a C in the class.

\*\*\*\*\* **\*\*Attendance will be taken every class meeting**\*\*\*\*\*

### **Assignments:**

#### **1. Exams (300 points total).**

There will be three exams, each worth 100 points. Exams may be any combination of true/false, multiple choice, matching, short answer, calculations & discussion. You are required to have a DataLink 3000 #29240 scantron and a nonprogrammable calculator for each test.

#### **2. Final Exam (80 points total).**

The final exam will be administered on Tuesday, **May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2015 from 10am-12pm.** This exam will be cumulative. The test may be any combination of true/false, multiple choice, matching,

short answer, & discussion. No early/late finals will be given. Finals not taken during this university mandated time will be given a "0". **If this time conflicts with your schedule, please consider dropping this course (100 points total).**

**3. Quizzes (50 points total).**

Five quizzes will be given over the course of the semester. These quizzes will account for 10 points each. Quizzes are taken in the first 5-15 minutes of class. Please plan to show up a few minutes early to class on quiz days.

**4. Environmental Health Impact Assignment (50 points total).**

Students will work as a team to identify environmental health issues which impact their daily lives (living area, on campus, in the community etc.) the environmental health issues will vary from environmental health hazards, prevention strategies, maintenance, sustainability, policy need or implementation etc.

- a. Each Student will need to access <http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/> and research the county that they are from. You will need to focus on the health factors section and pin point an area that has an increased or decreased occurrence and provide background information as to why that may be so in your county. This needs to be linked to social, built or physical environment. The information for ALL GROUP MEMBERS should be presented in a table during the presentation.
- b. Each student will need to contribute at least 3 photos showing how an environmental issue impacts their daily lives in the presentation.
- c. Students should be creative with this assignment feel free to record videos and take photos of these health issues and compile your findings as a team. The group will present their findings to the class and explain why those issues were identified and how they impact their daily lives.
- d. **Students will need to complete documentation noting what each person in the group contributed and each group member will grade each other, these documents will be on Folio.**

**5. Article Critique (30 points).**

The article critique is a group assignment. Each group will be assigned a peer reviewed environmental health article. The group members will then have to review the article and critically analyze the material based on a list of questions provided by the professor. The questions should be answered in 5-8 sentences. **Points will be deducted if the questions do not meet the minimum length requirement OR if they go over the maximum allowance of 8 sentences.** Refer to FOLIO for the questions and further instructions

**6. Current Event (10pts)**

Each student will present a current event to the class. This will occur in the first 10-15min of every class period (excluding test days). The student will need to identify an environmental

health issue that is currently occurring in the world (TRY TO RELATE IT TO THE CHAPTERS THAT WE ARE DISCUSSING AT THE TIME) and share it with the class. This can be presented in any format the student desires. The student will need to present this information and relate it back to environmental health. This relation should be made through a thought provoking **discussion question** that the student has prepared for the class. Each student will have 5-7 min. The student should also submit the current event (link or article) to the drop box area by **11:59pm the day before** they present. The student **MUST PRESENT** the current event to the class in order to receive the points. **These current events will be on your exams.**

7. **Term Project Report (70 points total).**

The Term Project Report is a **group assignment** which will include a 4-5 page double spaced paper, 12pt Font, APA Format(refer to <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/2/10/> to correctly format your paper) and an oral presentation to the class. The report will focus on an environmental health issue which will be agreed upon among the group. An outline will be given for the paper and the presentation format. The assignment also requires a draft of the topic to be turned in to the instructor for approval of the topic.

**Attendance**

**At 9:35am** each day, the door to the classroom will be closed. If you arrive after that, you will not be allowed to enter the room. The disturbance to the course is too great. If you disturb the class by knocking on the door and trying to enter the classroom, **10 points will be taken from** your final grade. Do not drop your personal items in the class and then leave the classroom, you will not be allowed to re-enter to retrieve your personal items until after the class is completed at 10:45am. **Attendance will be taken** and will count toward your final grade

**You are responsible** for any missed content, announcements, due dates, homework assignments, date changes, etc. when you miss a class. Please notify me if you will be late to the class.

**Course Policies:**

1. No make-up TEST or QUIZZES are given except for a **university excused absence with full documentation**. If you miss a test, you have one week to make the exam up. All make-up exams will be a combination of essay questions and computations. If it is not made up **within one week**, you will receive 0 points for the exam. **You have 24 hours** after a test is taken by the class to contact me via email to schedule your make-up exam or a 0 will be assigned to the test.
2. Exams and quizzes are the property of the professor, any exams or quizzes removed physically from the classroom or electronically via digital means by the student will result in the score of a "0" for that exam and/ or quiz, and an "F" for the entire course. Exams require a Scantron Form Data Link 3000 #29240. All exams will be a combination of multiple choice, true/false, fill-in-the-blank, matching and essays.
3. The final exam is mandatory and will be given during finals week. Early final exams will not be given. **If this scheduled time is a problem, please consider dropping this course.**

4. **All assignments** must be typed.
5. All assignments must be turned in through folio (mostly dropbox) unless otherwise directed. Assignments must be turned in by the designated time late assignments (**anything that's a second past the designated time**) will be given "0" points. Assignments should not be given to the Office secretary, slipped under my office door, left in my mailbox, etc. .

Late assignments **are not** accepted. Most assignments will be submitted through Folio (a day and time will be posted). For assignments due on Folio, they are due according to the times posted on Folio. I will ONLY accept assignments submitted in .doc or .docx or .pdf formats. Any other type of submissions will not be opened and receive automatic "0" points. I do not accept assignments submitted via email. I will not open assignments submitted via email and they will receive an automatic "0" points

6. Please consult the STUDENT CONDUCT CODE for course policy concerning issues related to academic dishonesty. Anyone caught violating any of these regulations will be immediately reported to GSU's Judicial Board, and be assigned an "F" for the course. **DO NOT PLAGIARIZE, YOU WILL BE CAUGHT. All written assignments will be checked for plagiarism, any plagiarism report higher than 25% will have a minimum of 20 points deducted from the assignment. The deductions will increase as the plagiarism percentage increases. Anything above 40% will not be graded and receive a grade of 0.**
7. Please beware of the last day to withdraw from class without academic penalty. Students who stop attending class without officially withdrawing from the class will receive a final grade of "F".
8. Samples of your work may or may not be reproduced for research purposes and/or inclusion in the professor's teaching portfolio. You have a right to review anything selected for use, and subsequently ask for its removal.
9. This syllabus, lectures, and all materials distributed and presented by me during this course are protected by copyright law. You are authorized to take notes in this class but that authorization extends only to making one set of notes for your personal use and no other use. You are not authorized to sell, license, commercially publish, distribute, transmit, display, or record notes from this class unless you have my written consent to do so.
10. If you are receiving services from the Student Disability Resource Center (SDRC) please come and see me, as soon as possible, to schedule an appointment to present me with an accommodation letter.
11. This course is on Folio. You are responsible for downloading notes BEFORE you come into class. Please regularly check Folio for any messages that I might have for you.
12. **Student seating will be randomized during testing periods.**

13. During testing periods, students are only allowed to bring a pencil, scantron, and non-programmable calculator to the seating area. **Book bags and cell phones (turned off) must be left in the front of the classroom.**
14. If you need to contact me, please use [th01177@georgiasouthern.edu](mailto:th01177@georgiasouthern.edu) email address rather than the email message services on Folio. Please give me 48 hours to respond and then email me again.
15. **Cell phone policy: Cell phones are expected to be OFF (or on silent) and OFF your person** (in your purse or book bag) at all times during all classes. If your cell phone goes off during class, you are using the phone (i.e. texting) or cell phone is on your desk/ person at any time during any lecture you will be asked to leave the class. In case of an emergency, please notify me prior to class.
16. **During class activities you are allowed to use electronic devices such as tablets, computers and phones to research the information. After the activity is completed all cell phones should be put away.**

**My Commitment to You:**

As a student in my class, you are important to me. I am committed to your continued learning and college experience. You are never an interruption of my work. You are the purpose of it. Students are the most important people at Georgia Southern University. I am honored that you entrust your education to me.

**HLTH/PUBH 3136: Principles of Environmental Health**  
**Spring 2015**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic Assignment</b>	<b>Chapter Readings and Due Dates</b>
Week One 1/13 & 1/15	Course overview/introduction  Chapter 1: The Environment at Risk; environmental problems and issues.	<i>Reading assignment: Chapter 1</i>
Week Two 1/20 & 1/22	Chapter 2: Environmental Epidemiology	<i>Reading assignment: Chapter 2</i>  <b>Quiz #1 Thursday, Jan 22<sup>nd</sup></b>
Week Three 1/27 & 1/29	Chapter 3: Environmental Toxicology  <b>Group Article Critique Assignment</b>	<i>Reading assignment: Chapter 3</i>  <b>Due 1/29 by 11:59am</b>
Week Four 2/3 & 2/5	Chapter 4: Environmental Policy and Regulation  Chapter 5: Zoonotic and Vector-Borne Diseases	<i>Reading assignment: Chapters 4&amp;5</i>  <b>Quiz #2 on Thursday, Feb 5<sup>th</sup></b>
Week Five 2/10 & 2/12	<b>*****EXAM 1***** Tuesday, Feb 10<sup>th</sup> (Chapters 1-5)</b>  Chapter 6: Toxic Metals and Elements	<b><i>Exam #1: Chapters 1-5</i></b>  <i>Reading Assignment Chapter 6</i>
Week Six 2/17 & 2/19	Chapter 7: Pesticides and Other Organic Chemicals  Chapter 8: Ionizing and Nonionizing Radiation	<i>Reading Assignment Chapter 7</i>  <b>Quiz 3 Tuesday Feb. 17<sup>th</sup></b>  <i>Reading Assignment: Chapter 8</i>
Week Seven 2/24 & 2/26	Chapter 9: Water Quality  Chapter 10: Air Quality	<i>Reading assignment: Chapter 9</i>  <i>Reading assignment Chapter 10</i>



Week Eight 3/3 & 3/5	<b>*****EXAM 2***** Thursday, March 5<sup>th</sup> (Chapters 6-10)</b>	
Week Nine 3/10 & 3/12	<b>Tuesday March 10<sup>th</sup> EH Presentations</b>  <b>Thursday March 12<sup>th</sup> EH Presentations</b>	<i>Groups can volunteer to present first or they will be assigned.</i>
Week Ten 3/17 & 3/19	<b>SPRING BREAK!!!!!!!</b>	<b>NO Classes this week</b>
Week Eleven 3/24 & 3/26	Chapter 11: Food Safety	<i>Reading assignment: Chapter 11</i>
Week Twelve 3/31 & 4/2	Chapter 12: Solid and Liquid Waste	<i>Reading assignment: Chapter 12</i>  <b>Quiz #4 Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup></b>
Week Thirteen 4/7 & 4/9	Chapter 13: Occupational Health	<i>Reading assignment: Chapter 12</i>
Week Fourteen 4/14 & 4/16	Chapter 14: Injuries	<i>Reading assignment: Chapter 13</i>  <b>Quiz #5 Thursday, April 16<sup>th</sup></b>
Week Fifteen 4/21 & 4/23	<b>*****Exam 3 ***** Tuesday April, 21<sup>st</sup> (chapters 11-14)</b>	
4 /28 & 4/30	Term Project Report Presentations	Designated Groups will present on Tuesday or Thursday  <b>All papers due on 4/27 by 11:59pm.</b>
<b>FINAL</b>	<b>Tuesday, MAY 5<sup>TH</sup> 2015 10am-12pm</b>	